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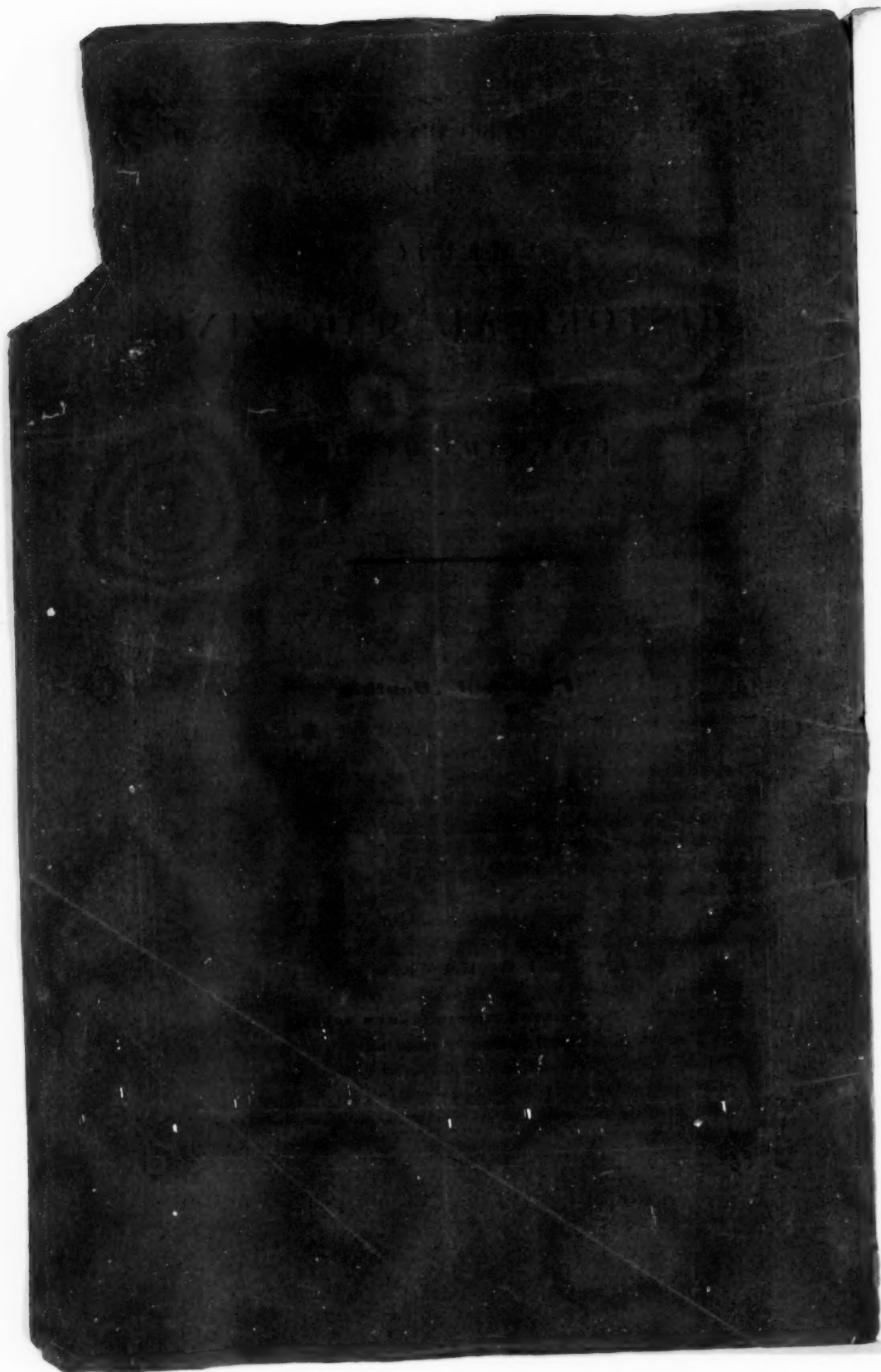
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THE FINE ARTS.

THE results of art depend so much on *individual taste*, that it is rarely found that the happiest efforts gain the favor of a general suffrage. A feature that is beautiful to the eye of one critic, is pronounced a blemish by another; and yet there is a standard of beauty, which, although undefinable by language, speaks to the senses of all.

The concurrent testimony of many ages, and of nations, varying as much in intelligence and taste, as in rank and refinement, has stamped a value on the works of the ancient Greek sculptors that will probably never be altered. By an assent almost universal through the civilized world, we adopt their works, as shadowing forth the perfection of graphic genius, and measure the merit of modern artists, by their nearer or more distant approaches to the models of antiquity. Perhaps a more extended field opened by the discovery of the art of printing, to the ambition and emulation of men of talents, may have operated unfavorably on the arts of painting and sculpture, by attracting many to the pursuits of letters, who, under other circumstances, would have embodied their sentiments and taste in visible and tangible images.

In an intellectual field, too comprehensive for the culture of the most expanded talents, we often perceive energies wasted, or at least weakened, by an excess of ambitious efforts. If Law requires, according to Fortesque, the application of twenty years of study, it is not to be presumed that the efforts of any genius can compass and grasp the whole circle of science and arts.

These observations may not seem appropriate as an introduction to a brief sketch of the lives of Artists. But entertaining as the

writer does, the belief, that the condition and character of our nation require more vigorous action and efforts in promoting the just cause of regulated taste, in the culture of those peculiar branches of study and observation, more particularly designated as occupying the field of the *Fine Arts*, embracing *Sculpture, Painting, Architecture, Music, and Poetry*, he has not considered the range of his remarks as too ample.

From the earliest records of the world, we can trace the vivid lineaments of these arts. The language of nature is poetical, and it responds to the rudest music with the instant impulse of enthusiasm. If we confine our illustrations to the feelings and sentiments of our own native tribes, when unadulterated, and therefore presenting the best specimens (if the expression be allowable,) of organic susceptibility and sensibility to the influence of just taste; do we not perceive that they were of a noble and elevated caste? The pyramids that cover our prairies, erected as monuments to the valiant; the fortified encampments, of which vestiges yet remain; the weapons, wrought with skill and beauty, now treasured in museums; all speak of a race entitled to the respect of those who now occupy their hunting paths.

The well-chosen title of Cooper's novel, "*The Last of the Mohicans*," struck a chord of sensibility that vibrated to the best and purest of American feelings. It was felt that no puritan origin, no factitious rank in intelligence, no profession of a better and holier faith, could justify the encroachments of the white man in his selfish and greedy rapacity. But the red men have passed by, and the pilgrims are possessed of their heritages. It is too late to remedy that sin of our fathers, but not too late to give the testimonials of sympathy for tribes that have fallen victims to specious humanity, and grasping avarice. It was a sentiment as true as noble, that was pronounced by a descendant of no mean race, in the annals of New England, at the centennial celebration of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth rock, in a city of an adjoining State.

"The memory of the brave King PHILIP, of *Mount Hope*, who fell while gloriously defending the hunting paths of his fathers from the incursions of the pilgrims and their descendants."

When that toast was uttered, the writer full well remembers, there was a chord touched that produced a strange sensation in the bosom of every member of that large assembly. The first impression was, that the sentiment was a rude libel on the charac-

ter of a pious ancestry, whose memory they had met to embalm in grateful recollection. A moment's silence ensued; but a sudden and simultaneous burst of applause testified that freemen, in an enlightened age of liberty, could discriminate between justice and injustice, and that whatever might be pilgrim virtues, it was no dishonor to a high-spirited *Sachem*, when his tribe was wasting under the withering influence of white men, and he, their chief, was hunted like a wild beast, into the dark recesses of swamps and caverns; to turn, when opportunity offered, and give an Indian's resistance to a Puritan's rapacity.

In the sincerity of pilgrim zeal, both in the cause of religion and liberty, the writer fully believes; but he cannot but think, that their attempts to root out heathen doctrines by the musket, were as unwise and inhuman, as the efforts of *Peter the Hermit*, when he stirred up the chivalry of Europe, to rescue by the lance and broad-sword, the Holy Sepulcher from the possession of Infidels.

The death-seal is attached to the fate of the tribes who once coursed in unrestrained liberty, over the mountains and through the valleys, where now the flocks and herds, and rich pastures, and cultivated fields of a different race are to be seen. We are fully aware that any expression of sympathy for those whom we have from our childhood been accustomed to consider as ruthless savages, will be censured by many who do not reflect on the subject, and permit their prejudices rather than their judgments to decide the matter. But conscious that we are right, we feel bound to pronounce a true epitaph, over the burial ground of nations, who have no descendants left to vindicate their memory, or shield them from aspersion. Nay further, we esteem it a matter of no light obligation, that the artists and the chroniclers of our national history, should strive to rescue some remembrances of an extinct race, and to award to the memory of the dead, a measurement of justice, in some degree proportioned to the injustice done to them while living.

These atoning offerings belong to the historians and artists of our nation. They can trace by *sculpture*, *painting*, and *traditionary sketches*, much that belonged to the past history of our continent. Is it not an object as worthy of their graphic skill, to select their subjects from our own land, as for *Sir Walter Scott* to trace the characters of his heroes, from a race almost as savage, but not as unfortunate. Should they esteem these suggestions as

worthy of attention, we could readily allude to many, whose efforts would give dignity and interest to the subject.

We may be pardoned in making our first allusions to a native artist, and subjoin a sketch of the biography and professional history of HEZEKIAH AUGUR.

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#### HEZEKIAH AUGUR.

BRIEF notices of the life of this artist have already appeared in newspapers and periodicals, but all that have met the observation of the editor, are, in many respects, defective either in accuracy as to facts, or in just measurement of professional merit.

With slight modifications, the following account of the life of Mr. Augur, and his gradual advance as an artist, is taken from a manuscript of undoubted accuracy as to facts, which has been procured at the solicitation of the writer. It is with more pleasure than we ordinarily experience in giving biographical sketches, that we note the progressive advancement of Mr. Augur to rank as a national artist. The fondness, and sportive associations of childhood, are agreeably blended with the respect and friendship of maturer years, and there is a kind of self-respect mingled with the reflection that time has sanctioned the judgment of youth.

The time, it is hoped, is rapidly passing away, when Americans shall pay a blind homage to foreign arts and artists. Then the wealth and patronage now so profusely lavished on them, will be directed with energy and effect, to the enduring benefit and honor of our own country; then our native gems of varied tint and brilliant luster will not be cast like "pearls to the swine."

HEZEKIAH AUGUR was born in the city of New Haven, in the State of Connecticut, on the 21st day of February, in the year 1791. His father was a "house joiner and carpenter," respected for his virtues and excellence of character, as well as for his mechanical genius and skill. He taught two of his sons, one older and one younger than the subject of this memoir, the same trade; but was opposed to his engagement in any mechanical pursuit. The reason assigned by him, as afterwards ascertained, was "that ingenuity and poverty were twin sisters; and that the former was seldom seen but in company with the latter."

The father of Mr. Hezekiah Augur was a sensible, and thoroughly a practical man. He had nothing in the elements of his character that partook of visionary zeal, and probably any origi-



nal tendency to enthusiasm in mechanical experiments, had been checked by his frequent observance "of the folly and consequent misery resulting from the misdirected efforts of ingenious men." "He was one among the many workmen employed at the Hurl (formerly Hell) Gate factory, about the year 1794, where so much money was uselessly expended." As a mechanic of acknowledged skill and talents, he was often employed in forming the models and machinery of inventors. He could comply with their wishes as a practical mechanic, but he could also judge scientifically of the value of plans submitted to his examination, and often ridiculed the foolish projects that were devised by those whose zeal out-ran their philosophy. He had on one occasion an opportunity offered, that furnished aliment for good-natured satire, that a man of his amiable temper was justified in improving. He indulged often in laughter, at the relation of one of his neighbors, who being employed as a mechanic by the inventor, to construct the model of a machine which was to produce "perpetual motion," gave bonds not to reveal the important secret.

But to return to the subject of this memoir. The father of Mr. H. Augur had discovered in his early childhood, a propensity for pursuits to which his paternal judgment was opposed, and to counteract his inclination for the pursuit of the arts, he apprenticed him at the early age of nine and a half years, to a grocer, to serve until he attained the age of fourteen years. He had previously, at a very tender age, been employed in a store as junior clerk.

The ruling passion of genius cannot be checked by any prudential or artificial arrangements. The same inclination to the pursuit of the arts which had awakened the apprehension of paternal solicitude, existed in the merchant's clerk as in the mechanic's son. During the four and a half years of his mercantile apprenticeship, he devoted the leisure hours of his boyhood to the device of machinery of various kinds, suited to the taste and wants of his less ingenious companions. Nay, these early specimens of skill deserve higher commendation, as several articles constructed by him before he had attained the age of twelve years, were procured by the proprietors of museums as curiosities, and probably are yet in existence.

Mr. Augur, in his juvenile efforts, adopted a system that has undoubtedly tended to his advancement as an accomplished artist. He regulated his taste by method, and even the materials of his

*bird cages* and *models of houses* were brought to the spot of their erection on rollers, and raised to the place of their ultimate destination by cords and pulleys, with all the mimic skill that youthful genius could afford. He constructed engines of various kinds, as the writer has been informed, which were much appreciated by gentlemen of science and mechanical skill. We may be pardoned in quoting a remark of Mr. Augur, as it has been the result of solicitation. "A fondness for these exercises was wholly instinctive, and operated in the morning with as much force as the desire to sleep in the evening; these were the happiest hours of my life."

Among the earliest efforts of his skill as an artist, are to be found many carved ornaments, connected with naval architecture. In the pursuit of this branch of art, he received the willing aid of several nautical men and ship masters, who resided in his neighborhood. With the characteristic fondness of seamen for handsome ships and handsome women, they could not but extend a friendly hand to an artist, who was destined to give such ample gratification to their taste. Mr. Augur has remarked, that the nautical books loaned to him at that time; the instructions as to the rigging of his "pigmy frigates;" and the critical remarks of the seamen, gave him his first ideas of symmetry and proportion, and that he then considered a "fine ship to present one of the most beautiful combinations of science and art." Young Augur found the true source of his enjoyment in the gratification occasionally administered to his taste for the arts, and sought all opportunities for indulgence. Their low state when he directed his attention to their culture, was not well adapted to the formation of a sculptor; and yet possibly the want of facilities for classical culture, by throwing him on his own taste and resources, may have enabled him to form an original style, instead of being the copyist of inferior artists.

In his juvenile attempts as a sculptor, the only school of art to which he had access, was found in the ornamental carvings upon ships lying in port, and he has mentioned to the writer, that the appearance of several of the figures were still fresh in his recollection, and although clumsily executed, they then struck him with such a fascinating power, "that the privilege of living with a ship carver would have been considered as equivalent to the grant of a holiday for life."



Mr. Augur, who knew the wishes of his father, and mingled with filial love, the respect that was due to his character, did not attempt to influence his arrangements until the expiration of his time of service drew near. He then urged his father to bind him to any trade he might select, and relieve him from an occupation for which neither his taste or inclination was suited. The father, unfortunately for his son's prospects at the time, and yet probably in the result, fortunately, selected a mechanical trade, offensive to his taste. This proposal hushed all opposition, and he never repeated his wishes, but submitted without murmuring to whatever arrangements might be devised for his advancement by the family.

Early in his fifteenth year, young Augur was, in compliance with previous arrangements, placed under the charge of an eminent physician, with a view to his qualification for the business of an apothecary, with a stipulation that he should remain in that employ until he attained the age of twenty-one years. But genius has its caprices, and whatever might be the health-giving properties of drugs and medicines, or however salutary the exercise of the "pestle and mortar," a young gentleman whose fancy was exuberant, found but little aliment for taste in the occupation. *Shakspeare* appears, from his description of stuffed aligators and other symbols of the profession, not to have possessed a better relish for it than the subject of this notice.

"I do remember an apothecary,  
And hereabouts he dwells,—whom late I noted  
In tattered weeds, with overwhelming brows,  
Culling of simples; meager were his looks,  
Sharp misery had worn him to the bones:  
And in his needy shop a tortoise hung,  
An alligator stuffed, and other skins  
Of ill-shaped fishes; and about his shelves  
A beggarly account of empty boxes,  
Green earthen pots, bladders, and musty seeds,  
Remnants of pack-thread, and old cakes of roses,  
Were thinly scattered, to make up a show."

There was, however, an accidental advantage that resulted from this employment, which probably more than counter-balanced wounded feelings, and time passed without enjoyment. The study of anatomy, so necessary in the education of an artist, became in a measure compulsory, and the accuracy of a sculptor who has wrought his first statues without models, is a proof of the strong impression which must have been made on his mind by the early study of anatomical specimens. Mr. Augur spent about one year

as the clerk of the apothecary. In the sixteenth year of his age he commenced a regular clerkship with an old and well established mercantile house. He possessed no capital, but he possessed the confidence of friends, which was cheerfully manifested. At the age of eighteen and a half years, he made arrangements for transacting business for personal benefit, and at the age of nineteen, was respectably established in business, as the acting partner in a house of credit and reputation. With the variable success and losses, growing out of the hazards of mercantile pursuits, and changes in partnership arrangements, the prospects of Mr. Augur gradually assumed a flattering aspect, till the year 1816. Antecedent to that period, he had been for two or three years engaged extensively in the dry goods business, as a partner of a gentleman of wealth, having the sole management of the establishment. The year 1816, and part of the preceding year, will long be remembered in our commercial and mercantile history as peculiarly unfortunate. The efforts of Mr. Augur to avoid a shipwreck of hopes, which overwhelmed so many establishments where prudence, years, and experience guided the helm, were unremitted. His industry and good management enabled him to weather the storm, and he has often mentioned to the writer that his industry and laborious efforts at that time far surpassed any exertions that he has ever subsequently made in establishing himself as an artist.

In December, 1816, the business of the concern was nearly closed, when a misunderstanding between the parties composing the firm, resulted in a sudden dissolution of their business connection, by mutual consent. This change in his circumstances, involved him in the most painful and unexpected difficulties, and operated upon a sensitive mind with peculiar force. His father, and other relatives, were under pecuniary responsibilities for him to a very considerable amount, and liable to be reduced to poverty as the result of kindred regard. Mr. Augur was literally without business, without money, and without credit,—in short a bankrupt in every thing but reputation and honor. The cherished plans of his young enthusiasm, for the attainment of wordly happiness had been blasted.

The circumstances to which we have barely alluded, gave a tinge to the character and habits of Mr. Augur, which probably no lapse of time will obliterate. His seclusion from society, and his solitary industry, are to be traced to that period.

After the dissolution of his mercantile partnership, he employed

his time in the assistance of his father in his business as a mechanic, and by persevering industry, not only became expert in the use of tools belonging to the trade, but experienced the salutary influence of bodily labor in healing a wounded mind. During the time of his occupation in his father's work shop, he exerted himself in vain endeavors to effect a settlement with his late mercantile partner, and to discharge himself from responsibilities which he had not the means of fulfilling. He found however, that generosity is not always allied to wealth, and the hope of gain not unfrequently checks the impulses of justice and humanity. After a continuance of four or five months in his father's shop, he resolved to resume his business of a merchant, with such means as he could procure from his friends. His capital stock consisted of two hundred dollars, *borrowed money*, and an unspotted integrity, emphatically *his own*. He invested his small funds in an establishment for vending fruit and segars, unconnected with any groceries. The reduction from a house of the first respectability, to the small business in which he found himself engaged, and his consequent seclusion from the social enjoyments and intimacy of his former associates, were calculated to give to his character a tinge of melancholy which will probably be always perceptible. His efforts at that period seem rather to have been governed and quickened into exercise by the desire of relieving his sureties from their engagements, than from any expectation of personal gain. While he did not yield his energies to the ingratitude of others, he gave a striking proof of his own integrity in his persevering efforts to save his friends from every loss. Good advice is generally more freely given than money, and his acquaintances predicted an unfortunate termination to his scheme, and endeavored to dissuade him from the attempt. The motives however, that governed his mind, were too strong to yield to their predictions of evil. He commenced, and continued in the occupation of a dealer in fruit, &c. for about two years.

A fondness for one branch of the fine arts is generally allied with an attachment to the whole sisterhood. Mr. Augur has always possessed a passionate fondness for music. His mechanical skill was exerted in gratification of his musical taste, and before leaving the business of a dry goods merchant, he employed his leisure moments in constructing and carving the frame of a harp. After it was finished it was carried to a cabinet maker to be varnished. The beauty of the carving attracted a surprised atten-

tion, and immediate propositions were made to induce him to relinquish his store and commence business as a carver.

The proposition would probably have been disregarded, had it not been that the prosperity of his little mercantile establishment, while it encouraged his hopes of ultimate relief from debt, might possibly be of sufficient importance to attract the attention of his former partner, and induce its seizure for an unliquidated debt. Under the circumstances that have thus been briefly noticed, Mr. Augur sold his stock, and applied the proceeds towards the discharge of his personal debts and the purchase of a few tools necessary for a carver. His father had died a few weeks before, and he was therefore left free to bend his efforts, without infliction of pain on the feelings of his parent, to an art agreeable to his inclination and suited to his necessities. His tools would be exempt from legal process,—his room was within the debtor's limits,—and his personal amusements required no larger range. He began to think himself in a manner independent of calamity. All the cabinet and coach makers of the city readily promised him their support, and expressed their gratification in being enabled to have their orders complied with at home, rather than forward them to foreign artists. They yet (with one exception,) frankly, and in a spirit of disinterested friendship, informed him that he would not probably obtain a support from the business, and endeavored to dissuade him from the undertaking. Most of his family connexions also protested against the scheme. Fortunately, however, for his future prosperity and reputation, he found friends of less timid character, who strengthened his resolution. He commenced business as a carver, had abundant patronage in the art, and at the expiration of two years, removed from an upper loft, which he at first occupied, into a substantial store. He soon connected with his mechanical business, a looking-glass establishment. He extended his industry to carving in all its branches, and accepted, with a view to an increase of profits, orders for various occasional jobs, not easily classed under any general mechanical head, uniformly answering in the affirmative when his services were requested, not as will be supposed from choice, but with a firm resolution to resist misfortune with manfulness.

Among his inventions at this period, was one that exhibited in a singular manner the versatility of his genius, viz: an improvement upon the best wooden or artificial leg, which had been devised, by connecting the movements of the knee, ancle, and in-

step joints, in such manner that when the stump of an amputated limb was thrown forward, the bending of the knee produced a corresponding motion in the foot, graceful and free from the unnatural and clumsy appearance observed in others, possessing at the same time, the additional advantage of greater security from falls, as the operation of the machine or contrivance, was such, that if weight was accidentally thrown upon it with the knee considerably bent, the pressure upon the heel immediately threw the knee back into a perpendicular line.

To any one familiar, either professionally, or by a worse acquaintance, with the principles of the law, it is not surprising that he should feel daily apprehensions that an arrest of his person by legal process would destroy all the hopes of his life. Seclusion from society and a disguise of his affairs, appeared the only remedies for these misfortunes; and with a spirit as honorable as philosophic, he made "his shop his home," and his industry "the opiate of care."

Perhaps an abstraction from the social intercourse of the world, and the application of industry to the culture of the arts, wrought with favorable influence on the character and genius of Mr. Augur. He soon had apprentices and journeymen in his employ, and the affairs of his shop or working house were so judiciously arranged, as to leave his mind free to its indulgence in other pursuits. As constant application in the culture of the arts had proved the best remedy for misfortune, so industry affected a gradual change in worldly prospects.

Samuel F. B. Morse, Esq., now President of the Academy of Arts and Design, in New York, was, at the period to which we allude, a resident in New Haven. His cultivated and scientific taste, had discerned in the early productions of Mr. Augur, the traces of talents, which only required culture, to insure reputation. He advised him to direct his attention to a higher grade of art, and to make efforts as a sculptor in marble. He complied with the advice of his friend, and selected as the first subject of study and copy, the Bust of the Belvidere Apollo, a work difficult of execution to an experienced artist, and presenting fearful chances of success to an unpracticed chisel. Yet genius and industry seemed to prevail over probabilities, and Mr. Augur gained honor from his first effort as a sculptor. This first effort, in a profession which it is hoped he may long grace, was in the year 1823.

During the winter of the last mentioned year, Mr. Augur ef-

fectured a settlement with his late partner, by purchasing the execution held against him. He had previously, by the observance of strict economy, and the practice of persevering industry, been enabled to release all his family connexions and friends from pecuniary responsibilities on his account, by the annual payment of nearly one thousand dollars. To meet the arranged terms of settlement with his late partner, he was compelled to dispose of his looking-glass establishment, which had risen by the efforts of industry and care, from a small beginning to a reputable and profitable concern.

An allusion to facts that have altered the prospects and early expectations of an artist, in which the conduct or character of others may be concerned, must be confined to such circumstances as may have operated in the guidance of his talents, industry and genius. Mr. Augur's ideas of right and wrong were regulated more by sensitive feelings, than by the artificial logic of a special pleader. In allusion to the above controversy, he says: "There may be, and doubtless often are, cases, attended with circumstances of such a dubious or intricate character, as to render it as difficult to determine what is right or what is wrong, as to distinguish precisely the first rays of the morning's dawn, or the beginning of evening's shade; but such were not the circumstances in the case alluded to, and the individual who could hesitate in deciding upon the character of the chief points at issue, between my late partner and myself, might mistake the beams of a meridian sun for the darkness of midnight."

But it is not our intention to dwell on private controversies, nor should we have alluded to such matters, had we not supposed that talents and genius receive their bent and animating impulse from circumstances often remote from any apparent influence. It is however proper to add, that Mr. Augur, after various propositions for the settlement of his concerns, and a discharge from responsibilities of a pecuniary character; undergoing, in the progress of adjustment, the visitation of a law-suit, and expressing his desire for the more neighborly process of an arbitration,—at length concluded that it was better to yield to temporary injustice, than to perpetuate controversy. Possessed only of his tools and fixtures for carving, after seven years of disappointed hopes, Mr. Augur was again thrown upon his resources, happily with unimpaired energies of mind, and with a buoyancy and energy of talents, that raised him above the dark clouds of misfortune. He felt



himself to be again a freeman, and the disasters already encountered, quickened him into more vigorous efforts. He had received from many benevolent gentlemen, much "good advice, and many expressions of sympathy," but no substantial aid. As a return compliment, it is believed he renders a measurement of gratitude, which their generosity has earned. Yet a neglect, (now remedied in practice, but which cannot be healed,) has probably given a tinge to feelings and character, that painters would designate as the "*chiaro obscuro*," or in plainer language, the pure and mingled beauties of light and shade—not a shade however, that partakes of aught that belongs to dishonor.

After the completion of his bust of Apollo, which was finished in December, 1824, Mr. Augur's hopes and sensibilities were suddenly awakened by profuse expressions of praise, and compliments. The artist's feelings responded to deserved and well-earned commendations, and ambition, that had partially withered under the influence of unjust appreciation, kindled when the notes of approbation touched upon his ear, and fastened themselves upon his heart. Testimonials have been awarded by the most respectable academies of arts, as acknowledgments of his merit; and the honorary degree of A. M. was conferred upon him at the annual Commencement of Yale College, in 1833.

Reserving for some future number a more particular allusion to the works and style of Mr. Augur as an artist, we omit giving a catalogue at present, of his contributions to taste and scientific regard. We confine ourselves only to his personal biography as a sculptor. We may note however, that he is now employed upon a Bust of OLIVER ELLSWORTH, formerly Chief Justice of the United States. This work is ordered by virtue of a resolution of Congress, who are wisely preserving the memorials of the past, for the benefit of the future; and it is believed that the result of this new effort will show, that experience has added grace and brilliancy to the appliances of industry, and that if time matures genius, and generosity of patronage is brought into operation, we may subjoin another to the many admonitions that reprove our dependence on foreign artists.

## INTERESTING DOCUMENT.

THE reader will not fail to greet with a cordial welcome, the following proclamation, which emanated from the worthy Governor of the Colony of Connecticut, in the early days of the Revolution. It breathes the very spirit of the Declaration of Independence, whose predecessor it was by about six months. We have preserved, as nearly as possible, the typographical peculiarities of the copy before us.

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BY THE HONORABLE

**JONATHAN TRUMBULL**, Esquire,  
GOVERNOR of the *English* Colony of CONNECTICUT, in *New-England*, in AMERICA:

**A P R O C L A M A T I O N ,**

For a Day of public Fasting and Prayer.

*WHEREAS it hath pleased the most high GOD, blessed forever, the supreme and righteous Ruler of the World, to bring upon this Colony, and the other British Colonies on this Continent, grievous and distressing Troubles, by permitting the Administration and Rulers of our Parent State, to make a solemn Declaration, that the Parliament of Great-Britain hath a Right to make Laws binding upon the Colonies in all Cases whatsoever,—and in Pursuance thereof have imposed Taxes upon us without our Consent ; deprived one of the Colonies of their most essential and chartered Priviledges ; sent over a Fleet and Army which have engaged us in a Civil War ; destroyed many Lives, burnt two of our flourishing Towns ; captured many of our Vessels that fell in their Way ; prohibited and destroyed our Fishery and Trade ; hostilely taken from the Inhabitants on our Sea Coast and Islands, Live Stock, and other Articles of private Property, and threaten us with general Destruction, for no other Reason known to us, than that we will not surrender our Liberties, Properties and Priviledges, which we believe GOD and Nature, the British Constitution, and our sacred Charters give us a just Right to enjoy.—And in the midst of these Calamities it hath pleased GOD to visit many of our*

*Towns with Sickness in the last Autum.—All which call for extraordinary Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer, and sheweth us that GOD demands our sincere Repentance and return to Him.*

I HAVE therefore thought fit, by and with the Advice of the Council, and at the Desire of the Representatives, in General Court assembled, to appoint, and do hereby appoint *Wednesday* the *Seventeenth* day of *January* next, to be observed as a Day of Fasting and Prayer throughout this Colony, hereby exhorting Ministers and People of all Denominations of Christians to observe the same; unfeignedly to humble themselves before God, penitently to confess their Sins; earnestly to beseech the Mercy of God, and His gracious Return to us.—That He would pardon our Iniquities, pour out His Holy Spirit upon us, and effect a thorough and general Reformation.—That he would please to remove the awful Calamities we are under; put an End to the Miseries of Civil War; restore, preserve, and secure our Liberties and Privileges, and settle them upon a lasting Foundation.—That He would bless and direct the Rulers and Guides of His People in all the Colonies, and particularly guide the Continental Congress, and make all their Counsels, Advice and Determinations such as will be pleasing to Him, and will promote the Union and Happiness of the People and secure the Enjoyment of our just Rights, and more and more unite and engage the Hearts of this People in the Things of God, and their own Peace; succeed all just Endeavours to obtain the Restoration of our Liberties and Privileges, and go on to restore and establish Health among us.—That He would particularly dwell in this Colony, give His Presence and Blessing to our Civil Rulers, strengthen, direct and assist them in this dark and difficult Day to understand and pursue the Things of our Welfare,—build up the Churches in Faith, Unity and Holiness,—prosper the Gospel Dispensations,—give His Presence with the Ministers of Christ,—make them greatly successful in gathering in Souls to Him. Bless the College and Schools of Learning,—succeed Endeavors used for promoting Christianity among the Heathen,—preserve their Peace and Friendship with us,—continue to turn the Counsel of our Enemies to foolishness, and blast every evil Design against us.—And to offer up fervent Prayers for our Sovereign Lord King George the Third, our Gracious Queen Charlotte, the Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family.—That God would direct the King's Councils, teach him ever to discern and incline him to pursue and promote the Things of God's

Will, and the true Interests, Happiness and just Rights of His People,—remove evil Counsellors far from him, and bless him with such Ministers as fear God, hate Covetousness, and are sincere Lovers of the People.—That He would pardon, enlighten, and save the Nation, and fill the Earth with his Praise. And all Servile Work is forbidden on said Day.

*Given under my Hand in the Council Chamber in New-Haven, the Nineteenth day of December, in the Sixteenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Third, of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, King, &c. Annoque Domini, 1775.*

JOHN<sup>TH</sup> TRUMBULL.

GOD save the KING.

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#### ANECDOTES OF GEN. WOOSTER.

To the Editors of the Historical Magazine.

GENTLEMEN—

I have been very agreeably entertained and instructed, by the perusal of the first number of your Magazine. In reading the biography of Gen. Wooster, an anecdote was revived in my recollection, which I heard related of him by an officer of our revolutionary army, in the year 1780, illustrative of his character as a brave and noble-spirited officer in his early military life, which he ever after fully sustained, until he fell a victim to the dastardly spirit of a tory of the revolution, who dared not face him.

The anecdote was this:—While Gen. Wooster was a Captain in the British line, after the capture of Louisburgh, he had under his command, soldiers from the colonies, who were good men and true. Some of his men were on one occasion detached to go on fatigue duty, under the command of a young British officer of a fractious temper, who was apt, on trivial occasions, to make a free use of his raton upon his own men. It so happened that on this occasion, and without any just provocation, he tried it over the shoulders of one of Capt. Wooster's men. When the men were dismissed from the labors of the day, the American soldier returned to his quarters, feeling justly indignant at the abuse he had received. He complained of it to his captain, who listened with friendly attention to his statement, and dismissed him with an as-

surance that he would see that his men should not be wrongfully abused by any one with impunity. The next morning Capt. Wooster called on the officer named to him by the soldier, more fully to investigate the matter, and to convince the young officer of the impropriety of thus abusing a fellow-soldier, when under his command only by a very brief authority. The haughty young Briton received him with great indignity, and treated him and his advice with marked contempt. Suddenly working himself up into a great rage, he drew his sword, and threatened to chastise him on the spot, for his insolence in attempting to teach him—a British officer—his duty. Capt. Wooster was cool and collected, not suffering his own steady mind to be moved by the storm which raged with such fury in the breast of his brother officer; but when he saw him draw his sword with murderous intent, he quickly drew his own sword, and put himself in an attitude of defense. The infuriated Briton soon made a plunge, which Wooster successfully parried, at the same time catching the hilt of his antagonist's sword on the point of his own, he hurled it from his hand, and it fell at considerable distance; then, in the twinkling of an eye, he ripped up the vest of his horror-struck assailant, and tickled his breast with the point of his sword; saying "Sir, your life, which you have justly forfeited, is now at my disposal; you save it by falling on your knees, asking my pardon, and promising that you will never again abuse a soldier while you remain in the army." The terms were accepted, without a parley.

This occurrence was soon known throughout the camp. The conduct of the British officer was considered justly reprehensible, and he was treated by most of his brother officers with such cold indifference, that he soon left the army. But the conduct of the magnanimous Capt. Wooster was highly applauded by all, as worthy to be imitated by the bravest of the brave; and he was ever after esteemed as the soldier's friend and protector.

At the time when this anecdote of Gen. Wooster was related in my hearing, I was an enlisted soldier of the revolution, and was serving my country under the command of the officer who related it; and every thing relating to the conduct of a good and brave officer or soldier, made a lasting impression on my then youthful mind, which I have never been able, nor ever have wished to eradicate.

In my early childhood, I lived in the vicinity of Col. Wooster's

residence in New Haven, and was frequently sent on errands to his house; and was always treated with such affability, both by the Col. and Madam Wooster, as led me to cherish great respect for them and their character. And I well recollect to have heard aged and respectable gentlemen of that day, when speaking of Col. Wooster, say, that in him was combined the character of the gentleman, the hero, and the Christian, in an uncommon degree. It appears on the church records of White Haven society, (which was one of the churches that formed the union, and is now called the Church of the United Society, in New Haven,) that David Wooster was admitted a member of that church, in the year 1768, on a letter of recommendation from the church in Stratford, of which he was then a member in regular standing. And in the same year, Roger Sherman was admitted a member of the same church, on a similar letter from the church in New Milford. Those were not only professing Christians, but they were eminently praying men; and such men, at that day, in New England, were those whom the people delighted to honor. They were elected to deliberate in the national councils of our infant republic, and to lead forth our armies to victory in our glorious struggle for independence.

The last time that I saw Col. Wooster, was in the spring or summer of the year 1775. He was at the head of his regiment, (or a part of it,) with their arms glistening, and their knapsacks on their backs, ready for a march, embodied on the Green, in front of where the Center Church in this city now stands. Before marching, Col. Wooster despatched a messenger for his minister, the Rev. Jonathan Edwards, with a request that he would meet him and his regiment at White Haven meeting-house, and pray with them before they marched. He then conducted his men, in military order, into the meeting-house, and seated himself in his own pew, awaiting the return of the messenger,—who on returning, informed the Colonel in a low voice, that the clergyman was absent. Col. Wooster immediately stepped into the Deacon's seat, in front of the pulpit,—called his men to order to attend prayers,—and then offered up a humble prayer for his beloved country, for himself, and the men under his immediate command, and for the success of the cause in which they were engaged. His prayers were offered with the fervent zeal of an apostle, and in such pathetic language, that it drew tears from many an eye, and affected



many a heart. After prayers, he and his men left the house in the same order that they entered it, and immediately marched out of town, by the road leading towards New York.

I am, gentlemen, yours with respect,

AN AGED SUBSCRIBER.

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#### AUTHENTIC ANECDOTE.

THE following facts show the manner in which Gen. Washington procured Tobias Lear to be his secretary.

In November, 1785, Mr. W. visited Gen. Washington, and passed a day or two at his house. Sitting at table one day, the General said he wanted to obtain a person to keep his accounts, and to instruct Mrs. Washington's grand-children, the Custises. He said he was about writing to his correspondent in Scotland, to procure a person for these purposes. Mr. W. replied respectfully. "Sir," said he, "I should suppose that as, during the revolution, you have had opportunities of becoming acquainted with the literary character of many gentlemen in the United States, you would not think it necessary to send to Scotland for a man to teach the children of your family A B C." The General started. "Why, what shall I do, sir? we have nobody here that will answer the purpose." Mr. W. replied, that he thought any of the northern colleges might furnish him with a suitable person. Here the conversation ceased. After dinner, while walking in the hall, the General accosted Mr. W.: "Sir, I have been thinking of what you say. I had indeed written a letter in part to my friend in Scotland, but if you can recommend a person to me who will answer my purpose, I should prefer to have one of my own country." Mr. W. said he was not able to do this, until his return to the north; but would then comply with the General's wishes with pleasure. In a few weeks after, Gen. Lincoln visited Gen. Washington, who mentioned this subject to him, and he recommended Mr. Lear.

## NATHAN HALE.

THE following poetical notice of Capt. NATHAN HALE was written soon after that accomplished officer had devoted himself on the altar of liberty. We have already given valuable sketches of his character. It is time, but perhaps not too late, to write his epitaph; and to give a proof that Robert Emmett, a noble martyr of Ireland, anticipated truly the more honest judgment of another generation, when he asked of his countrymen, in terms of touching eloquence, that they would postpone to other times the record of his character.

The following article is from the pen of an aged and respected citizen, now deceased; and whatever may be any incidental errors in poetical illustration, will be compensated by the facts disclosed in it. We have been desirous to preserve a registry of all circumstances attending the fate of Capt. Nathan Hale.

Before closing this notice, we may remark, that the name of NATHAN HALE appears enumerated in the battle bands of two of our fierce American contests. One was slain by the bursting of a cannon at the capture of Louisburgh, in the "old French war," as it is called by aged people. He is noted in the account of the battle, as a gallant officer in the Connecticut line. The second was the subject of this notice. A third gentleman of the same name has been a Senator, and Vice President of the Board of Internal Improvements, in Massachusetts. It is gratifying and pleasant to observe a good name perpetuated.

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NEW HAVEN, Aug. 9, 1784.

I WAS personally acquainted with, and entertained a high opinion of the amiable Capt. NATHAN HALE, who suffered death in New York, [State,] by the hands of the British troops, in 1776; a character on some accounts similar to Major ANDRE, and on many, greatly superior. Every man who regards the welfare of his country, must revere a patriot who died in its defense; and while the English Magazines, news, &c. were filled with the praises of Major Andre, it gave me no small degree of regret, that Capt. Hale's virtues should be so little celebrated in the country,

where, and for which, he died. This I am able to impute to nothing, but the great distress in which America was at that time involved. This gave rise to the following piece, which was wrote soon after *Hale's death*.

TO THE MEMORY OF CAPT. NATHAN HALE.

"Heu! miserande puer, si qua fata aspera rumpas,  
Tu Marcellus eris." VIRG. Lib. vi. line 882.

A MUSE who ne'er drank Heliconian spring,  
Shall strive to raise her feeble voice to sing;  
Can she forbear, although 't will naught avail,  
When low in earth is laid her favorite HALE?  
Shall haughty Britons in heroic lays,  
And tuneful numbers, chant their ANDRE'S praise;  
And shall Columbia,—where blest freedom reigns  
With gentle sway, to bless her happy plains,—  
Where friendship, truth, and simple manners shine,  
And noblest science lifts her head divine;—  
Shall she forget a son's—a patriot's name,  
A hero's glory, and a martyr's fame?  
And shall not one, of all her tuneful choir,  
Whose bosom glows with true poetic fire,  
Attempt to sing that dear departed youth,  
Who fell a victim in the cause of truth?  
Rous'd by the thought, a friend presumes, thus late,  
Lov'd HALE, thy life and death to celebrate.

Dear shade of him, whose life drew all men's love,  
If you regard from your bright seat above,  
Aught that's transacted on this ball of clay,  
Forgive this simple, unadorned lay.  
Forgive the fondness of an infant muse,  
Who dares to sing what nobler bards refuse,  
And let her friendship plead for her excuse.

Erect and tall, his well-proportion'd frame,  
Vig'rous and active, as electric flame;  
His manly limbs had symmetry and grace,  
And innate goodness marked his beauteous face;

His fancy lively, and his genius great,  
His solid judgment shone in grave debate ;  
For erudition far beyond his years ;  
At Yale distinguish'd above all his peers,—  
Speak, ye who knew him while a pupil there,  
His numerous virtues to the world delare,  
His blameless carriage, and his modest air ;  
Above the vain parade and idle show,  
Which mark the coxcomb and the empty beau,  
Removed from envy, malice, pride and strife,  
He walked through goodness as he walked through life ;  
A kinder brother nature never knew,  
A child more duteous, or a friend more true ;  
His teachers' precepts he obeyed with ease,  
The charms of science every hour could please ;  
Then he with rapture read those polished lines,  
Where Grecian wit and Roman genius shines,—  
Where the great worthies of the former age  
Live in the poet's and historian's page,  
Raised to a hight which envy dares not blame,  
Crown'd with a glorious and immortal fame !  
Their bright example fired his gen'rous mind ;  
Like them, the friend and lover of mankind,  
He glowed with zeal for his dear country's cause,  
And to support her mild and equal laws,  
When impious Britain, drunk with pride and power,  
Sent forth her legions in an evil hour,  
To strow this hapless land with heaps of slain,  
With step intrepid sought th' embattled plain ;  
And soon distinguish'd, in his first essay  
Of valiant deeds, on that important day,  
When titled slaves, brave freemen's valor tried,  
And Bunker's hight with British gore was dyed.  
Merit like his could not unnoticed lie,  
Beneath the ken of his great leader's eye ;  
He early marked him, in the patriot line,  
A genius fit for ev'ry great design,—  
His virtues trusted, and his worth admired,  
And mutual friendship both their bosoms fired ;  
For kindred souls, whom ends most noble move,  
Are ever certain of each other's love.

New York, strong post, by impious Howe was held,  
While patriot legions spread th' adjacent fields,  
And Fabius wished to learn the foe's designs,  
Their numbers, order, batteries, forts and lines.  
To gain that knowledge was the task he chose,  
And free,—alas ! too free,—his life t' expose,  
Trusted himself amid his savage foes.  
With close attention all their works he scann'd,  
And executed what great Fabius plann'd ;  
Then far removed from ev'ry friendly aid,  
By force arrested,—by a wretch betrayed,—  
Arraigned before a savage, bloody court,  
Where harden'd souls at human sufferings sport,  
Cool, firm, undaunted, and composed he stood,  
Among those butchers—thirsting for his blood.  
Not all their pomp, parade, and lordly pride,—  
Not all their threats, nor all the arts they tried,—  
Nor death, that King of Terrors, nature's dread,  
Hov'ring in air, incumbent o'er his head,  
Could tempt his soul to use the least deceit,  
Or speak one falsehood to elude his fate !  
But clear and open as the noon-day sun,  
Declared the cause why he the hazard run,—  
Why from the calm retreats of rural life,  
He plunged amid the dang'rous martial strife :  
“ Hate of oppression's arbitrary plan,  
The love of freedom, and the rights of man ;  
A strong desire to save from slavery's chain  
The future millions of the western main,  
And hand down safe, from men's invention cleared,  
The sacred truths which all the just revered ;  
For ends like these, I wish to draw my breath,”  
He bravely cried, “ or dare encounter death.”  
And when a cruel wretch pronounc'd his doom,  
Replied, “ 't is well,—for all is peace to come ;  
The sacred cause for which I drew my sword  
Shall yet prevail, and peace shall be restor'd.  
I've serv'd with zeal the land that gave me birth,  
Fulfill'd my course, and done my work on earth ;  
Have ever aimed to tread that shining road

That leads a mortal to the blessed God.  
 I die resign'd, and quit life's empty stage,  
 For brighter worlds my ev'ry wish engage ;  
 And while my body slumbers in the dust,  
 My soul shall join th' assemblies of the just."

He spent the time until he met his fate,  
 With smiling patience, and in pious state ;  
 Which when arrived,——  
 To draw that scene, the powers of language fail,—  
 Love, grief and pity break the mournful tale.  
 Not Socrates, or noble Russell died,  
 Or gentle Sidney, Britain's boast and pride,  
 Or gen'rous Moore, approach'd life's final goal,  
 With more compos'd, more firm, and stable soul.  
 The flesh sunk down, to mix with kindred clay,—  
 The soul ascended to the realms of day.

A form so manlike, with such sweetness join'd,  
 Such fortitude, and so enlarg'd a mind,  
 Such pleasing manners, and such spotless truth,  
 Such majesty and grace, in bloom of youth,  
 Such patriot love, that match'd the *Desius'* zeal,  
 Or *Codrus*, dying for his country's weal,—  
 Produc'd effects almost beyond belief,  
 Struck e'en his barb'rous, savage foes with grief.  
 The wretches felt, by whose vile hands he died,—  
 Though flushed with conquest, and elate with pride,—  
 Though born in Britain, and to murder bred,—  
 Lost their base errors, and rever'd the sacred dead !

In earth's full bloom, fell this lamented friend ;  
 But life is long, that answers life's great end,—  
 That leaves embalm'd a pure, unsullied name,  
 And adds a worthy to the rolls of Fame.  
 Ye sons of Science and of Virtue, mourn,  
 With copious tears bedew his silent urn ;  
 And thou, fair Yale, the Muses' blissful seat,  
 Nurse of the learn'd, the virtuous, and the great,—  
 Thy mournful notes, let Melopene swell,  
 And solemn dirges ring his funeral knell.



Chief let th' assembly, where the valiant meet,  
Which, dangers past, in friendship, renders sweet,—  
Where conquest gain'd o'er haughty Britain's arms,  
The well-earn'd peace, and sacred freedom's charms,  
Give joys, which none but worthy souls can know,—  
At Hale's sad fate let fall the tears of woe.  
Thus wept Achilles his Patroclus' fate,  
A sorrow worthy of the truly great.  
Let all the fair, the gen'rous, learn'd and brave,  
Approach with rev'rence his untimely grave ;  
While living laurels, with eternal bloom,  
Shall deck the scene, and shade the warrior's tomb.

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#### CULTURE OF SILK.

To the Editors of the American Historical Magazine.

As the efforts for the culture and manufacture of Silk are reviving and becoming very interesting in this State, I feel desirous to contribute the little experience which I have had, to the encouragement of an enterprise which I think promises to become so extensively beneficial to the Northern States. About the year 1787 or 1788, the State of Connecticut formed a general society for the extension and encouragement of raising the Mulberry tree, for the purpose of the culture and manufacture of Silk. Doct. Stiles, the then President of Yale College, was elected President of the society, and engaged with great ardor in the undertaking. Through his instrumentality emanated other auxiliary societies, in almost every town in this State ; and many members, of families of influence, gave their personal attention and services to advance the enterprise.

I being young and at leisure at that time, to acquire information and make experiments, procured seed enough to produce about ten thousand of the worms ; and for their accommodation had hanging shelves made, and put up in convenient rooms, the width of which were about the width of a common newspaper, and the distance of one above the other was the length of the paper. These I covered with papers, for the convenience of cleaning them daily, as is necessary for the health and thrift of the worms.

President Stiles came almost daily, and read different treatises on the various modes of managing them, and we tried experiments according to their directions. One author said that lettuce would answer very well to feed them, the first week or ten days. We tried it, and found that lettuce made no silk; the cocoon was like a moth-eaten ball of yarn. The black mulberry produced very strong silk, but it was rough, and had but little luster; and the worms fed from that were from five to six weeks before they wound up. The silk from those we fed wholly from the white mulberry, had a beautiful luster, and was very smooth and strong; and the worms wound up in four weeks.

The whole quantity of silk produced from the ten thousand worms, deducting for loss from experiments, was twenty-eight runs of sewing-silk,—which, at the then retail price of sewing-silk, sold for enough to pay boys for picking the leaves—a woman for reeling it from the cocoons—and a man six cents a run for doubling and twisting on a machine,—which machine was made for, and had been used for twisting linen thread for the weaving of stockings. The net profit, after deducting the above stated expenses, was twenty-four dollars, besides reserving for my own use several runs of the silk.

### REVOLUTIONARY PAPERS.

THE conductors of the Magazine take pleasure in acknowledging the kindness and attention of a soldier of the army of the revolution, in loaning them an original "Orderly Book," containing copies of General, Brigade, and Regimental Orders, issued for that portion of the American army stationed in and near New York, during a part of the year 1776. From some of these, the reader may get an idea of the constant watchfulness and alacrity in the discharge of duty, required from those to whom was entrusted the glorious work of achieving our national independence. The paternal solicitude of the noble chieftains of our little army, for the health and comfort of the troops under their command, will call forth the admiration of every friend of humanity.

From the collection before us, we purpose to select such orders as may appear to be of general interest, (and what document, re-

lating to those trying times, will not be regarded with interest by every American reader?) and transfer them to our pages, for the benefit of future generations.

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#### REGIMENTAL ORDERS.

NEW YORK, Aug. 16th, 1776.

##### *Orders for Col. Fitch's Regiment.*

Ensign Phineas Bradley will do the duty of Adjutant, and Ensign Pruden will do the duty of Quarter Master, and they are to be obeyed as such, until further orders. The Quarter Master will immediately agree with some tea-water man, to supply the regiment with water to drink; and the men are to be very careful not to drink any of the pump water near their quarters, as it is very unhealthy. If any man in the regiment is not furnished to the amount of twenty-four rounds per man, the Captain or commanding officer will make a return to the Quarter Master, who will apply to the Adjutant General for an order, that they may be supplied. The regiment to parade to-morrow morning, at reveille beating, near the Fly Market, in order to march to their alarm post. The roll to be called, morning and evening. No soldier off duty to go further from his quarters than the beat of the drum, without leave of his commanding officer. The commanding officers of companies to see that the men keep their arms clean, and in readiness for action at the shortest notice. As troops at their first arriving in camp, and not being acquainted with the manner of living, are often unhealthy, it is recommended that they cook their victuals in good order as possible, and keep their barracks clean, which will do much towards preserving their health. In case of an alarm, the regiment to parade immediately near the Fly Market, and wait for orders. A quarter guard to be mounted this evening, consisting of one Corporal and six men, and to be continued until further orders.

WILLIAM DOUGLASS.

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#### REGIMENTAL ORDERS.

NEW YORK, Aug. 17th, 1776.

##### *Orders for Col. Fitch's Regiment.*

One hundred and fifty men, properly officered for fatigue, this afternoon, to parade at two o'clock, if it should not rain. The men off duty to clean their arms; the Quarter Master to apply to Com-

missary Cheever for oil. It is recommended to the officers to read all their late General orders, in order that they may acquaint themselves with the rules of the army. The martial law to be read to this regiment this evening, or to-morrow morning early. All those off duty will attend worship to-morrow, at the house where the regiment attended prayers this morning.

WILLIAM DOUGLASS.

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PAROLE. { HEAD QUARTERS,  
          { Aug. 18th, 1776.

As nothing contributes so much to the good order and government of troops, as an exactness of discipline, and a strict observance of orders; and as the army is now arranged into different Divisions, those Divisions formed into Brigades, and the Brigades composed of Regiments, the General hopes and expects that the several duties of the army will go on with regularity, cheerfulness and alacrity. As one means of accomplishing this, he directs that no regiment, brigade or division will interfere with the duties of another, but walk in their own proper line; the Colonels taking care not to contravene the orders of their Brigadiers,—the Brigadiers of their Major Generals,—and that the whole pay due attention to the General's orders, which can only be set aside, or be dispensed with, by orders of equal dignity. The army, under such a regulation, will soon become respectable in itself, and formidable to the foe. It is an incumbent duty therefore, upon every officer, of every rank, to be alert and attentive in the discharge of the several duties annexed to his office. His honor, his own personal safety, and, for aught he knows, the salvation of his country and its dearest privileges, may depend upon his exertions. Particular cases may and doubtless will happen, to render it necessary, for the good of the service, that a change of officers should be made from one brigade to another; but whenever there appears cause for this, it will be notified by general or special orders. The General cannot quit this subject, as this may possibly be the last opportunity previous to an attack, without addressing the private men, and exhorting the troops in general to be profoundly silent, and strictly obedient to orders, before they come to, and while they are in action; as nothing can contribute more to their success, than a cool and deliberate behavior, nor any thing add more to the discouragement of the enemy, than to find new troops calm

and determined in their manner. The General has no doubt but that every good soldier, and all the officers, are sufficiently impressed with the necessity of examining the state and condition of their arms; but his own anxiety on this head impels him to remind them of it, after a spell of wet weather, lest we should at any time be caught with our arms unfit for immediate use. The regiments of militia from Connecticut are to be formed into a brigade, under the command of Brigadier General Wolcott, who is hourly expected; and in the mean time to be under the command of Col. Hinman, the eldest Colonel of the militia. Though the fire ships which went up the North river, last Friday evening, were not so successful as to destroy either of the men of war, the General thanks the officers and men for the spirit and resolution which they showed in grappling the vessels before they quitted the fire ships; and as a reward of their merit, presents each of those who staid on board and are somewhat burnt, fifty dollars, and to the others forty dollars each. Brigadier for the day, Gen. Scot; field officers for the picket, Col. Chester, Lieut. Col. Prentice; main guard, Col. Stockholm; Brig. Maj. Fish.

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HEAD QUARTERS, Aug. 20th, 1776.

The troops lately arrived are informed that it is contrary to general orders to fire in camp. Such fire arms as are loaded, and the cartridges cannot be drawn, are to be discharged at retreat beating, in a volley, under the inspection of an officer. The officers of such troops are desired and required to prevent all other firing in camp, as it tends to great disorder. The regiments of militia from Connecticut, under the command of Col. Hinman, are in case of an alarm to parade on the grand parade, and there wait for orders. The officers who have lately come into camp are also informed, that it has been found necessary, amidst such frequent changes of troops, to introduce some distinction by which their several ranks may be known, viz: field officers to wear a pink or red cockade; captains, white or buff; subalterns, green. The General flatters himself that every gentleman will conform to a regulation which he has found essentially necessary, to prevent mistakes and confusion.

The General being informed, to his great surprise, that a report prevails, and is industriously spread far and wide, that Lord Howe has made a proposition of peace, calculated by designing persons,

most probably, to lull us into a fatal security,—his duty obliges him to declare, that no such offer has been made by Lord Howe ; but on the contrary, from the best intelligence he can procure, the army may expect an attack as soon as the wind and tide prove favorable. He hopes therefore, that every man's mind and arms will be prepared for action, and when called to it, show to our enemies and the whole world, that freemen, contending on their own land, are superior to any mercenaries on earth. The Brigadiers are to see that the spears in the several works under their command be kept greased and cleaned.

Gen. Sullivan is to take the command on Long Island, till Gen. Greene's state of health will permit him to resume it. Brigadier General Lord Sterling is to take charge of Gen. Sullivan's division, till he returns to it again. Edward Tiliman, Esq. is appointed an assistant Brigade Major to Lord Sterling, the duty of the whole division being too great for one officer, and he is to be respected and obeyed accordingly. Officer for the day, Brigadier Lord Sterling ; field officers for the picket, Col. Broadhead, Lieut. Col. Clark, and Major Millins ; for main guard, Major Mead ; Brigade Major, Henly.

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#### ANECDOTE OF GEN. PUTNAM.

DURING the revolutionary war, when Gen. Putnam was in command of an important fortress in the Highlands of the Hudson river, his force had been so much weakened by the expiration of limited enlistments, and the withdrawal of troops for the protection of other important passes, that the enemy ventured to besiege his fort. The siege was extended beyond the patience of a veteran, whose feelings were more in favor of field fights, than of artificial maneuvers. He was still more annoyed by a bandy-legged drummer, who approached an angle of the fort every morning, to beat an insulting reveille. After having chafed under the insult, like a caged lion, he procured one of the Dutch ducking guns, of caliber and length sufficient to reach the drummer, and punish his audacity. He stationed himself with this weapon at the parapet, and soon saw his insulting victim approaching. He had scarcely struck the first note of triumph and defiance, when drum and drummer rolled in the dust. "There," exclaimed the satisfied General, "go to the shades with your sheep-skin fiddle!"



## EARLY HISTORY OF NEW YORK.

WE give below, further and interesting extracts from the early records of New Netherland. The documents which follow relate to disagreements between the Dutch residents in New Amsterdam, and the English in Hartford.

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### No. III.

On Thursday, being the 6th June, 1641.

WHEREAS, the English on the Fresh River of New Netherlands, are very troublesome to, and use great violences against our settlers there, not contenting themselves with usurping and building on the lands we have bought, paid for, and taken possession of; but moreover come and sow grain at night on the land which our people have ploughed. The grass which our people mow, they fetch to their houses. When our people plough, they come with bludgeons and cutlasses, and treat them barbarously. Our pease standing and growing well, they have cut off, and in the place thereof have planted Indian corn. By violence sieze our horses, cows, and hogs, and suffer some of them to die for want of something to eat. Cut the traces of our ploughs in pieces, and throw the same into the river. Encircle our houses with pallisadoes so that we can with difficulty come out of it.

And whereas, these several matters have been duly considered by us, and have a tendency to injure as well as bring into disrepute our high sovereignty and the honorable West India Company, whose just rights and authority we are bound to maintain, have resolved to send to that place, Doctor Johannes la Montagnes, one of the Council of New Netherlands, with fifty soldiers, and some vessels, with a design to fortify our House Hope there, and to prevent the English from practicing such like wicked hostilities for time to come, and to maintain our ground and jurisdiction there.

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### No. IV.

On the 3d April, 1642.

Whereas, our ground, purchased, paid for, and taken possession of by us, (Anno. 1633, furnished with a block or log house, garri-

son and artillery, situate on the Fresh River, of New Netherlands, long before any Christians had been on the said river,) hath now for some years past been usurped with violence by some English, who have given the name of Hartford thereto, notwithstanding we have in due form protested against them, and who also have treated our people very barbarously, having beat them with bludgeons and cutlasses, even to shedding of blood; cut our corn out of the ground; sow the land by night which our people have ploughed by day; fetching away by force to their houses the hay made by us; cast our ploughs into the river; sieze by violence our horses, cattle and hogs, and keep them in their possession; so that there remains no cruelty, insolence or violence, which our people have not experienced from them,—who have on the contrary shown them every civility; nay, have gone so far, that they have at a great risque released their women who have been taken by the Indians, and returned them to their families. And although we have orders and directions from the States General, His Highness of Orange, and the Honorable West India Company, at all events to maintain our limits, and support our jurisdiction, and for which purposes we do not want the power, but have rather patiently suffered insult, and shown in reality that we were better Christians than those who outwardly cover themselves with the cloak thereof, to the time that the measure should be meted full.

We do therefore provisionally order and command, and do hereby ordain, and expressly forbid any of our inhabitants of New Netherland to purchase the produce grown on our land by Fort Hope on the Fresh River, either directly or indirectly, by any manner or means whatsoever, under the penalty of arbitrary correction, till such time as they shall know their lawful owner; and the sellers of the produce coming out of our Fresh River of New Netherland, or out of New England, shall, before they sell, upon oath declare where the produce was raised, of which certificates shall be delivered to them, upon which all shall be privileged to buy and sell; and all persons are hereby notified and cautioned, that they may hereafter plead no ignorance, and run themselves to costs and damages.

Thus done by the Assembly, and published in Fort Amsterdam.

## SCHOOL BOOKS.

ELEMENTARY books, for the instruction of children in the rudiments of knowledge, are the germinating seeds of science. They are, like the plants of a gardener's nursery, the seedlings on which, when arrived at maturity, rich verdure, wide-spread branches, and alternate flowers and fruit, give beauty and fragrance to the senses, and aliment to the appetite. We are not apt to reflect on the immense influence of these works, in the formation of the early—it ought to be added, the whole character of man. From this circumstance, laborers in a field of literature, that to an unobservant eye appears to be of easy culture, have met with too little encouragement from men of science. They feast with eagerness on the fruits of knowledge, but forget the seedsman whose early culture has prepared the repast.

An old friend of the writer, who had in early life been a ship master in the London trade, once mentioned to him an anecdote, that is apposite in illustration. He said that in passing through an obscure street in London, he remarked over the door of a humble tenement, a sign board, having the inscription, "JOHN DILWORTH, *Schoolmaster*." Having acquired the rudiments of his mathematical education from "*Dilworth's Arithmetic*," and not reflecting that there might be more than one John Dilworth, the Captain walked into the school-house. He there found a venerable looking man, presiding over a school of about fifty rather rudely dressed boys. With the frankness of a sailor, he explained the reason of his intrusion; stated that he was an American, and that if the man whom he addressed was John Dilworth, who made a Spelling Book and an Arithmetic, he was indebted to him for the rudiments of his education, and for many a well-deserved whipping. By accident, the Captain had found the right man. The school was soon after dismissed, when Mr. Dilworth and Captain L. went to the lodgings of the latter, to improve their new acquaintance. In the course of conversation, Mr. D. mentioned that necessity, not choice, compelled him to continue his school, at his advanced age; yet his pride of authorship was gratified, when he was informed that his Arithmetic was the usual text book in the schools of another continent. He observed that it

was in general use in Great Britain, and that large fortunes had been realized by its publishers,—but not for his benefit, as he had sold the copy right for *five pounds*. With the professional generosity of a sailor, it may be added, the gentleman from whom we received the anecdote extended more substantial liberality to John Dilworth, than the purchaser of the copy right.

The public are not apt to notice small things, and especially in literary concerns. Before the revolution, the people of this country received most of their school books from England; but just at the close of the war, Mr. Noah Webster published a little elementary book, on a new and improved plan, which superseded the use of all similar books of English make. It is now certain that that little book has given work to the different manufacturers, paper makers, printers, and binders, in the United States, to the amount of a *million of dollars*.

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#### AMERICAN INDUSTRY.

At a Lodge of Free Masons, held at the Fountain Tavern in New Haven, Tuesday, 19th March, 1765—

Lodge duly formed.

This Lodge taking into consideration the unhappy circumstances of the Colony, arising from their being greatly in debt, and willing to contribute what little assistance is in their power, towards the promotion of arts, agriculture and economy, which appears to them the only means of extricating the Colony out of its present difficulty, and prevent for the future; and accordingly have voted premiums to be given on the following articles, to be raised in the county of New Haven, in the manner following:

For the greatest quantity of good Hemp, raised by any one farmer in the county of New Haven, five pounds; for the second, four pounds; for the third, three pounds.

For the greatest quantity of Flax, four pounds, raised as aforesaid.

For the greatest quantity of Linen Yarn, spun by one person between the first of July, 1765, and July, 1766, £2. 10s.; for the second, thirty shillings. N. B. The quantity of yarn to be computed per run.

Proof of the quantity of Hemp and Flax raised, and Linen Yarn

spun, to be by affidavit of the grower or spinner, before any one Justice of the Peace for the county, specifying the quantity, and that the Hemp and Flax was raised by one person, in the county aforesaid, in the year 1765, and the Yarn spun by one person, between the periods above mentioned.

On a certificate being produced from any one Justice of Peace, of such affidavits being made by the person or persons that appear to have raised and spun the greatest quantities of the above articles within the time above limited, shall receive the above premiums, by applying to the Treasurer of the Lodge for the time being.

N. B. The period of waiting for such proof will be till the first of July, 1766, for the Yarn ; and the certificates to be sent to Col. Nathan Whiting, or the Master of the Lodge for the time being.

By order of Lodge.

TIM. JONES, *Sec'ry.*

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#### NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

WE have given, in our Prospectus, a brief statement of our arrangements as to the matter and objects of our Magazine. The perpetuation of historical facts,—the preservation of the history of those who have rendered service to our country, by sketches of their biography, are, to their fullest extent, embraced in our plan. The *soldier*, who has periled his life for liberty ; the *navigator*, who has guided his helm to an unknown coast, in daring enterprise ; the *pioneer* of a wilderness, filled with diseases and tomahawks,—are intended to be noted and kept in remembrance. “Time and chance happen to all men,” is an observation that no sensible being, who has experienced even the vicissitudes of a short life, will ever pronounce apochryphal ; and it is not with any distrust, that we commend the recollections of the past to the observant regard of the present generation.

But gatherings must be made by friends of different trades and professions, to furnish aliment for a work like this. We are as much opposed to radicalism and to aristocracy, in literature, as in politics. We do not intend to interfere with the conflicting interests that may grow out of the latter, beyond the notice of such events as may perchance have a connection with important historical facts. Such notices as may be furnished us, either by transmission of original papers, (which will be carefully preserved, and returned, according to direction,) or by selected and arranged articles for publication, will be much appreciated.

THE objects and views of the society whose organization and plan we present below, fully accord with our own taste. The respectable names connected with its official arrangement, cannot but insure confidence. It is gratifying to perceive the intermingling of the talents of an early and a latter harvest for the public weal. We copy from the New York Courier & Enquirer.

### THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MILITARY AND NAVAL EVENTS.

At a meeting held at the Mayor's Office, on Monday evening last, for the purpose of completing the organization and electing officers of said Society, the following gentlemen were chosen for the ensuing year :—

Gen. MORGAN LEWIS, *President.*

Col. JOHN TRUMBULL,

Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT,

WASHINGTON IRVING,

Col. CHARLES GRAHAM,

GEORGE D. STRONG, Esq.

Col. JAMES WATSON WEBB,

The MAYOR *ex officio.*

*Vice Presidents.*

Philip E. Milledoler, } *Rec. Secretaries.*

James T. Brady,

Hamilton Fish,

John Stark,

} *Cor. Secretaries.*

Abraham Lefoy, *Treasurer.*

Thomas Herttell,

Thomas Morris,

James Fennimore Cooper,

Capt. M. C. Perry,

Charles A. Clinton,

Col. Samuel L. Knapp,

William Leggett,

*Committee  
of  
Correspondence.*

Gen. Anthony Lamb,

M. M. Noah,

Barnabas Bates,

Alexander Slidell,

Darius Darling,

Dr. John Wolcott,

There has never been established in our country, a Society with the same claims to the fostering care and liberal patronage of the people of the United States, as that which has recently been cal-

ed into being through the persevering energy and patriotic feelings of Mr. THOMAS HERTTELL. While all have lamented that many of the most soul-stirring incidents and patriotic sacrifices of the Officers and Soldiers of the Revolution, and of the late war, are about being lost to history and to our country,—no one appears to have been sufficiently conscious of the importance of their preservation, to undertake the labor of organizing a society for that purpose, until Mr. Herttell, nearly two years since, brought the subject before the public and took the incipient steps for producing so desirable result. Although his efforts unfortunately failed at that time, his essays on the subject awakened the public mind to its importance; and we are happy to announce, that a society has not only been organized in this city, of a truly national character, but that it has already commenced its operations under the most cheering auspices.

It is too late to regret the immense loss which has already occurred by the death of those who could have furnished the most interesting and valuable information in relation to the military and naval events of our history;—much that would have been valuable as *examples* in future contests, and interesting to all who feel an interest in our national character, has been irretrievably lost for want of such a society as is now instituted; but much, very much, may, and we trust will be preserved by its organization at this late day. Instead, therefore, of useless regrets for the past, let the officers of the society, and all who feel an interest in the subject, be prompt and persevering in preserving what yet remains to us.

We have not room to enlarge upon this subject to-day, and shall content ourselves with the following extracts from the Constitution of the Society, illustrative of its great and patriotic objects.

*Article second.*—"The objects of this Society shall be, the collection, preservation and publication, from time to time, (under the authority of the Society,) of documents, historical reminiscences, biographies, anecdotes, and other matters illustrating or calculated to illustrate the history of the United States of North America, and more especially of events connected with the war of the revolution and the late war with Great Britain; with a view to hand down to posterity the memorable events of said wars, to award to its active friends and their coadjutors the honor and credit to which their devotion and services to their country justly entitle them; and to preserve, in a durable form, the history



of the merits and achievements of distinguished American patriots, statesmen, officers, soldiers and seamen of the army and navy of the United States."

*Article 4*, classifies members into, *first*, resident members, who shall contribute annually to the support of the society; *second*, corresponding members, to be admitted after they have contributed to the objects of the society, by a memoir or other papers; *third*, honorary members, to "consist only of those, who have distinguished themselves in the military or naval service of the United States, or from official station or public consideration shall be deemed entitled to that honor."

*Article 6*, provides that "all persons of full age and of good character, who shall subscribe this Constitution within six months after its adoption, and pay at the time of such subscription the sum of two dollars, and agree to pay (if necessary) the further sum of two dollars annually in furtherance of its objects, shall be considered original members of this society."

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#### CORRECTION.

As it is the wish of the conductors of this Magazine, to give *facts* for historians, as well as to gratify literary taste, they are bound to notice all discrepancies as to dates, in their notices. In the first number of the Magazine, page 7, it is said that General Wooster was killed the 2d of May, 1777. That statement was made from the remembrances of relatives, and an error in dates has probably occurred. Gen. Wooster, according to the concurring statements of Marshall, Holmes and Dwight, was mortally wounded on the 27th April, 1777, and died on the 2d day of May following, at Danbury, Connecticut.

## LITERARY RECORD.

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### NEW WORK.

LIVES OF THE APOSTLES OF JESUS CHRIST. New Haven: L. H. Young. 1836.

A work bearing the above title has, within a few days past, been presented to the public. The notice of copy-right names DAVID FRANCIS BACON as author. We have had but little leisure to examine its contents minutely, and even an abundance of leisure would not have enabled us, without much time and labor, to have explored the numerous streams that in a collected union, make up the biography of the Apostles. So far as our examination has extended, we feel bound to accord in the respectable testimonials given in favor of the work, by gentlemen fully competent to judge of its merits. It presents in every page, indications of industry, and of persevering efforts, to arrive at truth in narration. We might allude to some faults in style, were we disposed to be hypercritical, and particularly to the occasional introduction of words, which vulgar usage has sunk below the dignity of such a work.

The sentiment expressed by Horace, in his beautiful treatise, entitled "The Art of Poetry," alluding to the Heathen Mythology, that a Deity should not be introduced unless the subject was worthy of divine interference, may be applied in reverse admonition, that language should never fall below the dignity of the persons described. But the fault to which we have thus alluded is easily remedied, and is now more than redeemed by the valuable contents of the work. We venture to predict that Mr. Bacon's volume will find a place on the shelves of every well selected ecclesiastical library. It is ornamented by numerous wood engravings, is well printed, contains over six hundred pages, and is sold for three dollars. We wish author and publisher success.

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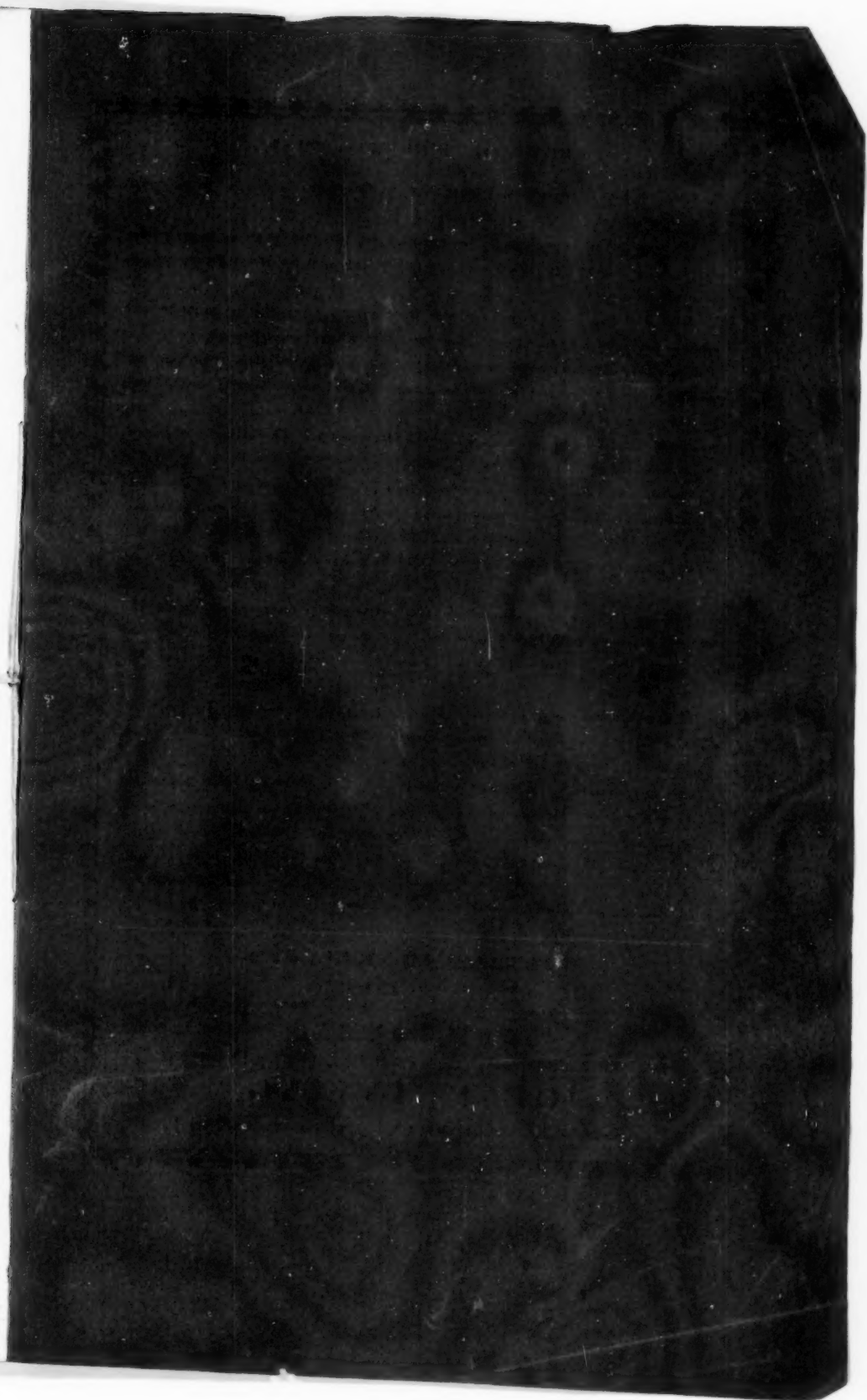
### THE ARTS.

In a sketch of the life of Mr. HEZEKIAH ARGUR, Sculptor, the remark was made that a fondness for any particular branch of the fine arts, was generally connected with an attachment to all. We were gratified as well as amused, by a confirmatory proof of the correctness of the remark, in an accidental examination of some old

books, that had reposed as long on their shelves as Rip Van Winkle, who took a nap of some forty years in "Sleepy Hollow." Among these books we observed "*Pope's Essay on Man*," stitched in and bound up with such a singular congregation of pamphlets as reminded us of the "Harleian Miscellany." It gives the following notice on the title page: "London printed: Philadelphia re-printed, by W. Dunlap, at the newest printing office, in Market street, for G. Noel, Book seller, in New York, M.DCC.LX."

Our particular object in referring to this poem is, to note the frontispiece. It is a rude engraving from a design of Pope. The explanation by his learned friend Warburton, will describe it better than we could do. Without displaying the graphic genius of Hogarth, Pope seems to have accorded with him in imagination. Warburton thus explains the frontispiece:

"The reader will excuse my adding a word concerning the frontispiece; which, as it was designed and drawn by Mr. Pope himself, would be a kind of curiosity, had not the excellence of the thought otherwise recommended it. We see it represents the vanity of human glory, in the false pursuits after happiness: where the ridicule, in the curtain-cobweb, the death's head crowned with laurel, and the several inscriptions on the fastidious ruins of Rome, have all the force and beauty of one of his best wrote satires: nor is there less expression in the bearded philosopher sitting by a fountain running to waste, and blowing up bubbles with a straw, from a small portion of water taken out of it in a dirty dish; admirably representing the vain business of school philosophy, that, with a little artificial logic, sits inventing airy arguments in support of false science, while the human understanding at large is suffered to lie waste and uncultivated.



### TERMS OF THIS MAGAZINE.

*First.* The annual subscription is to be *three dollars*, to be paid on the delivery of the third number.

*Second.* The work will be published monthly, in one volume, neatly put up in printed covers, and *consist of at least forty pages per number.*

*Third.* The numbers will be forwarded by mail, or sent to the regular agents of the publisher, at the request of subscribers.

*Fourth.* If patronage sufficient shall authorize the expense, engravings or lithographic illustrations will occasionally embellish the Magazine.

*Fifth.* The type and paper are exhibited by the sample furnished by this specimen.

*Sixth.* Any person forwarding to the publisher *Fifteen Dollars in advance*, shall be entitled to six copies of the Magazine for one year.

*Seventh.* Single subscriptions, from places where there is no local agent, should be accompanied by the pay in advance.

The publisher is assisted in the editorial department by **EBENEZER BALDWIN, Esq.** and has assurances of valuable contributions from literary gentlemen in various quarters of the United States.

Post Masters and Agents, throughout the country, are authorized to act as agents, in procuring subscriptions and forwarding payments to the publisher.

**NOTE.** All letters containing remittances, or relating to the business matters of the Magazine, must be addressed to the publisher. Communications, intended for publication, may be addressed either to the editor or publisher.

Wm. STORER, Junr.

Publisher.

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